

SIMSBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
Minutes of August 15, 2005 Meeting

Present: Carol Bingham, Bert Kaplan, Babs Gardner, and Gail Ryan. Susan Bullock, Director. Two observers were present: Gail Langdell and Kyle Langdell.

Carol Bingham, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:25 PM. B. Kaplan moved that he minutes of the July 18, 2005 meeting be accepted. Second: Babs Gardner. So moved. There were no additional agenda items.

PUBLIC AUDIENCE: Gail Langdell and Kyle Langdell introduced themselves. Kyle is working on a Boy Scout merit badge and had to attend a public meeting. C. Bingham explained the library expansion to them and G. Langdell said that the library was very crowded and the expansion was an ambitious but necessary endeavor.

COMMUNICATIONS: B. Kaplan reported that Nancy Johnson would be attending Septemberfest between 2 and 3 o'clock Saturday and he would bring her over to the library's booth.

G. Ryan read part of the minutes of the March 1, 2005 meeting of the Board of Finance in which Paul Henault questioned what would be done with the moneys from the State Grant.

S. Bullock spoke of a conversation with a Commercial Broker about the possibility of needing approximately 10,000 sq. ft. as a temporary space for the library during construction. The architect will be asked whether it would be cost effective to move or continue to operate during construction.

C. Bingham distributed copies of an article from Forbes Magazine entitled "Google isn't Everything".

COMMITTEE REPORTS: B. Gardner reported for the Friend of the Library. There has been no meeting, therefore no report except that they are working on the Book Sale. The Renewal Team is meeting this week. The Case Statement is almost done. MJ Young is working on a press kit, FAQ's to be used for training trainers and a pared down PowerPoint presentation of 15 slides. Ken Mason will do a flyer for Septemberfest with the logo. C. Bingham mentioned that Mary Murphy of Sage Designs might be of assistance as well.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: S. Bullock reported on the summer highlights in the Children's Room and the Tariffville programs. She also told of the increase in the Museum Pass reservations placed by patrons rather than staff since it became possible to do so in April. The patron-placed reservations have gone from 8% to 42%. Circulation is down 1% since last year because of the lack of staff and flat materials budget. Also, 20,000 in circulation totals for in-house circulation and books put in the mending category used to be counted in circulation and no longer are. This summer has been particularly difficult because of staff shortages. Patrons can now see their accounts on line and can reserve materials online, which has increased the number of calls with questions.

In January downloadable audio books will become available in a 4-month trial funded by the Friends for \$750. To continue would be \$5000 a year.

World on a Book Truck, providing cataloged foreign language books will begin with titles in Korean, Spanish and Russian. The collection will be added to and rotated with other libraries every quarter. There will also be a foreign film festival of titles in these languages.

A motion was made by Bert Kaplan and seconded by Babs Gardner to close the library on the following days: December 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> 2005; December 31<sup>st</sup>, January 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> in observance of Christmas and New Year's holidays. The motion passed unanimously.

**BUILDING PROJECT:** Public Building Committee was to meet on August 8, 2005 but there was no quorum. Dale Cutler was there and they set up a meeting with him about his contract. D. Cutler gave them the revised project budget sheet. The stream crossing has come in at a higher cost and possibly could be considered as an "add-on".

At 8:40 PM B. Kaplan moved for adjournment. Second: B. Garner. So moved.

Gail K. Ryan, Vice-Chair and acting Secretary